

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/616,714

Examiner

Matthew S. Gart

Applicant(s)

ANANDA, MOHAN

Art Unit

3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Claim Amendment 10/17/2007 and Examiner's Amendment 11/12/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 7-11, 14-21, and 38.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

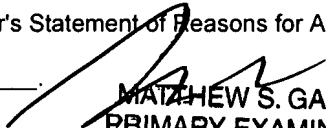
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>11/12/2007</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |


MATTHEW S. GART
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephonic interview with the applicant's representative (Mr. Frank Weyer) on November 12th, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Title

The title has been changed to read as follows:

--Method and system for facilitating secure electronic transactions with multiple merchants--

In the Claims

17. (Currently amended) A vendor computer system having computer readable program code embodied therein for implementing a vendor server to enable secure, indirect electronic commerce between a user at a client computer system and one or more merchant servers, said program code configured to perform at least the steps of:

establishing a secure communication link between a client computer system and a vendor server;

transmitting transaction information to said client computer system from said vendor server enabling a user at said client computer system to select for purchase, via said vendor server, items listed in a plurality of merchant servers without said user having direct access to said merchant servers;

receiving at said vendor server a first request from a client computer system concerning an item listed on a first of said merchant servers;

modifying at said vendor server said first request from said client computer system to said vendor server into a modified request from said vendor server to said merchant server;

sending said modified request from said vendor server to said merchant server;

obtaining by said vendor computer system server merchant content comprising a merchant web page for items listed for sale from said a merchant server;

modifying said merchant web page at said vendor server ~~computer system~~ into a modified web page by replacing hyper-text links to said merchant server in said merchant web page with hyper-text links to said vendor server in said modified web page;

sending said modified web page from said vendor server to said client computer system for presentation to said user.

38. (Currently Amended) A secure electronic commerce system, comprising:

means for establishing a secure communication link between a client computer system and a vendor server;

means for transmitting transaction information to said client computer system from said vendor server enabling a user at said client computer system to select for purchase, via said vendor server, items listed in a plurality of merchant servers without said user having direct access to said merchant servers;

means for receiving at said vendor server a first request from a client computer system concerning an item listed on a first of said merchant servers;

means for modifying at said vendor server said first request from said client computer system to said vendor server into a modified request from said vendor server to said merchant server;

means for sending said modified request from said vendor server to said merchant server;

means for obtaining merchant content comprising a merchant web page from said a merchant server;

means for facilitating the purchase by a user at said client computer system of items from said merchant server comprising:

means at said vendor server for creating a modified web page by replacing hyperlinks to said merchant server in said merchant web page with hyperlinks to said vendor server in said modified web page; and

means for sending said modified web page from said vendor server to said client computer system for presentation to said user.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding Independent Claims 1, 8, 17, and 38

The prior art of record neither anticipates nor renders obvious a method and system wherein modifying said merchant web page, *inter alia*, comprises: replacing said one or more hyper-text links to said merchant computer system in said merchant web page with one or more hyper-text links to said vendor computer system in said modified web page.

The most remarkable prior art of record is to Tobin (U.S. Patent No. 6,141,666). Tobin teaches a server based communications system that provides dynamic customization of hypertext tagged documents presented to clients accessing the system. In Tobin's system, when a client selects a link from a vendor website to a merchant website, the merchant server dynamically generates customized copies of its own web pages and presents them to a client as if the merchant web pages were web pages of the vendor (Tobin: column 10, lines 8-26). The web pages presented to the client are not existing merchant web pages that are modified with one or more hyper-text links.

None of the prior art of record remedies the deficiencies found in Costin and Berger. Furthermore, neither the prior art, the nature of the problem, nor knowledge of

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a person having ordinary skill in the art, provide any reasonable rationale to combine prior art teachings.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

"Firm that provides stamps over Web attracts capital. (Stramps.com's postage software and postage stamps via the Internet)" Kantar, Larry, Los Angeles Business Journal, Volumn:21, Number: 8, Page: 19, February 22, 1999.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew S. Gart whose telephone number is 571-272-3955. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Smith can be reached on 571-272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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